the country rather than to the poorest tribal districts, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what is the total financial allocation for social sector of the tribal areas *i.e.* Simdega and Gumla of Jharkhand for the last 3 years, district-wise, block-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir. As per Ministry of Tribal Affairs the level of infrastructure in Scheduled/Tribal Areas is very low as compared to the rest of the general areas.

(b) Funds are allocated State-wise and not district-wise or block-wise. The release of funds to the State of Jharkhand including the programmes in the districts of Simdega and Gumla of Jharkhand under various scheme of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during the last three years are as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Years	Amount Released
2003-04	9081.57
2004-05	8723.72
2005-06	7952.70

Loans to Tribals in Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh

4032. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the loans provided by banks to the tribal in Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh is very poor; and

(b) if so, what is being done to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The total number of SC/ST beneficiaries assisted in the State of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh under Government Sponsored Schemes [Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY),

Scavangers Liberation & Rehabilitation Scheme (SLRS) and Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) are given below:

Jharkhand:

(Amt. in Lakh Rs.)

Year	SGSY		SJSRY		SLRS		PMRY	
	No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.
2002-03	12145	NA	146	48.99	5	0.62	848	753.63
2003-04	19119	NA	134	34.01	0	0.00	1165	936.48
2004-05	12395	NA	101	30.09	0	0.00	1159	919.48

Chhattisgarh:

(Amt. in Lakh Rs.)

Year	SGSY		SJSRY		SLRS		PMRY	
	No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.
2002-03	3804	NA	465	103.46	56	10.82	665	371.68
2003-04	6465	NA	401	135.15	63	13.15	521	302.93
2004-05	2696	NA	648	144.68	88	15.32	737	430.28

*NA— NOT AVAILABLE

(b) In order to improve the situation, Reserve Bank of India has initiated the following measures for the successful implementation of government sponsored Schemes *viz.* SGSY, SJSRY, SLRS and PMRY which *inter-alia* include:—

(i) RBI had advised all the scheduled commercial banks that loans sanctioned under SGSY, SJSRY and SLRS should be treated as advances under priority sector.

(ii) Loan applications under SGSY should be disposed of within the prescribed time limit of 15 days and at any rate not later than one month.

(iii) Steps should be initiated to ensure that documentation process is made simple to avoid hardship to the beneficiaries and consequent delay in disposal of applications under the SGSY scheme.

(iv) Under SJSRY for individual loans up to Rs. 5000/- and group loans to Rs. 3 lakhs no collateral/guarantee is required.

(v) Banks have been advised to conduct joint recover drives with concerned Government departments *viz.* DIC.

Withdrawal of bonus payable on post office term deposits

4033. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that bonus payable on post office term deposits has been withdrawn with effect from 13th February, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(c) steps taken to encourage small savings and make it more attractive for its significant contribution towards economic growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. No bonus shall be paid on the deposits made in the accounts opened on or after 13.2.2006 under the Post Office Monthly Income Account (POMIA) Scheme. However, deposits in Monthly Income Accounts opened before 13.2.2006 shall continue to be eligible for bonus as hithertofore. The amendment has been made to align the effective yield on deposits under this scheme with other comparable savings instruments.

(c) The small savings schemes, carrying different tenor and rates of interest administered by the Government of India, are designed to provide safe and attractive investment options to different sections of small savers. Central and State Governments are taking various measures to promote these schemes through print and electronic media, arranging seminars and meetings, providing training to the various agencies involved in small savings collections, etc.

Reduction in funds for revival of sick PSUs

4034. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's concern for revival of sick PSUs has grown lukewarm with heavy reduction in plan allocation for 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and